

Amendment to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-35 (Cancelled)

Claim 36 (Currently Amended) A method of cleaving RNA comprising SEQ ID NO:24562460 encoded by a mammalian VEGFr1 gene comprising contacting a double-stranded nucleic acid (siRNA) molecule with the RNA encoded by VEGFr1 gene under conditions suitable for the cleavage of the RNA encoded by the mammalian VEGFr1 gene, wherein:

- (a) each strand of the ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule comprises about 18 to about 27 nucleotides;
- (b) each strand of the ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule comprises one or more chemical modifications selected from the group consisting of 2'-O-methyl nucleotide, 2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro nucleotide, and 2'-deoxy ribose moiety; and
- (c) one of the strands of the ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule is complementary to RNA encoded by the mammalian VEGFr1 gene or a portion thereof and the other strand is complementary to the first strand.

Claim 37 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 36, wherein the ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule comprises no ribonucleotides.

Claim 38 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 36, wherein the ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule comprises ribonucleotides.

Claim 39 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 36, wherein each strand of the ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule comprises at least about 19 nucleotides that are complementary to the nucleotides of the other strand.

- Claim 40 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 39, wherein the ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule is assembled from two separate oligonucleotide fragments wherein one fragment comprises a sense region and the second fragment comprises an antisense region and wherein the sense region and antisense region are complementary to each other.
- Claim 41 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 40, wherein said sense region is connected to the antisense region via a linker molecule.
- Claim 42 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 41, wherein said linker molecule is a polynucleotide linker.
- Claim 43 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 41, wherein said linker molecule is a non-nucleotide linker.
- Claim 44 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 40, wherein one or more purine nucleotides present in the sense region are 2'-O-methyl purine nucleotides.
- Claim 45 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 40, wherein one or more purine nucleotides present in the sense region are 2'-deoxy purine nucleotides.
- Claim 46 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 40, wherein the one or more pyrimidine nucleotides present in the sense region are 2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro pyrimidine nucleotides.
- Claim 47 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 40, wherein the fragment comprising said sense region includes a terminal cap moiety at the 5'-end, the 3'-end, or both of the 5' and 3' ends of the fragment comprising said sense region.
- Claim 48 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 47, wherein said terminal cap moiety is an inverted deoxy abasic moiety.

- Claim 49 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 40, wherein the one or more pyrimidine nucleotides of present in said antisense region are 2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro pyrimidine nucleotides
- Claim 50 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 40, wherein the one or more purine nucleotides of present in said antisense region are 2'-O-methyl purine nucleotides.
- Claim 51 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 40, wherein the one or more purine nucleotides present in said antisense region comprise 2'-deoxy- purine nucleotides.
- Claim 52 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 40, wherein said antisense region comprises a phosphorothioate internucleotide linkage at the 3' end of said antisense region.
- Claim 53 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 40, wherein said antisense region comprises a glyceryl modification at the 3' end of said antisense region.
- Claim 54 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 40, wherein each of the two 3' terminal nucleotides of each fragment of the double stranded nucleic acid molecule are 2'-deoxy-pyrimidines.
- Claim 55 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 54, wherein said 2'-deoxy-pyrimidine is 2'-deoxy-thymidine.
- Claim 56 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 36, wherein the ~~double stranded nucleic acid~~ siRNA molecule comprises a first strand having sequence

5'-B CUGAGUUAAAAGGCACCCTT B-3' (SEQ ID NO: 2185),

and a second strand having sequence

5'-GGGUGCCUUUUAAACUCAGTsT-3' (SEQ ID NO: 2188),

wherein each A, G, C, and U are ribonucleotides, each T is thymidine, s is a phosphorothioate internucleotide linkage, and each B is an inverted deoxyabasic cap moiety.